Estimate for the Alleppey-Changanachery Road.

119. *Mr. K. M. Korah: Will the Government be pleased to state whether any estimate of the Alleppey—Changanachery Road has been made?

Mr. R. Krishnaswami Rao: No. It is being investigated.

Commutation rates of paddy for Kandukrishi and Income tax purposes.

120. *Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: Will the Government be pleased to state what the commutation rates fixed are for paddy for purposes of (i) Kandukrishi taxation, and (ii) for income tax assessment?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: Commutation rates for paddy for purposes of:

I. Kandukrishi taxation.

Taluk.	*Rate per para.*	
	Chs.	C.
Agastisvaram	19	6
Kalkulam	16	13
Neyyattinkara	18	6
Trivandrum	19	0
Ambalapuzha, Changanacherry and Kottayam.	12	0
Kartikapalli, Mavelikara and Tiruvalla.	13	8

II. Income tax—14 Chs. per para.

Mr. M. K. Ananthasiva Aiyar: In viev of the fact that 12 chuckrams is fixed for commutation rate in the Ambalapuzha Taluk, may I know why 14 chuckrams is fixed for income-tax purposes?

Mr. M. Govinda Pillai: These rates have been adopted by calculating the averages in respect of each Taluk for one year for the purpose of Kandukrishi taxtation and the average for the whole State for the purpose of income tax.

President: Mr. Eric Hall has given notice of a short notice question. He can ask supplementary questions if he wishes to do so.

Prevention of damages caused by wild elephants.

121. * **Mr. Eric Hall** (*Travancore Planters*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether damages caused by wild elepheants on planting estates in Travancore are more frequent of late;

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(*b*) whether there are adequate measures to prevent such damages ; and

(*c*) if not, will they be pleased to bestow their attention on the matter and take adequate steps to prevent such damages ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai: (*a*) Yes ; since cultivation has gone to the interior forests forming the abode of these animals.

(*b*) Adequate measures such as digging trenches, putting up barbed wire fencing along elephant tracks, shooting blank cartridges, have been suggested to ward off possible damages. The Forest Department has been doing its best to prevent damages from wild elephants by conducting capturing operations, proscribing solitary rogues and firing rockets to scare them away.

(*c*) This does not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*).

Mr. Eric Hall: May I know whether Government received any report regarding the damages done to the Periyar estate by wild elephants ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai: Government have made enquiries.

Mr. Eric Hall: May I know whether Government have taken any steps to prevent damages done by wild elephants ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai: It was found that damage has been done. Estate owners were advised to take precautionary measures to prevent those damages. Government have done all they could in the matter.

Mr. Eric Hall: Is it possible to dig trenches round all these estates which suffer from attacks of wild elephants ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai: There are certain precautionary measures which the estate managers themselves can do. Wild elephants generally come through particular paths.

Mr. R. V. Thomas: With reference to answer to part (*b*) may I know whether Government have actually put up trenches ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai: Government have not undertaken any planting in the district. They have done all what is possible.

Mr. R. V. Thomas: I want to know whether Government have actually dug trenches, put up barbed wire fencing etc., in the planting districts ?

Mr. P. Raman Pillai: It is for the planters to do that. Government have done all they could do.

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Appointment of Excise Inspectors.

1. **Mr. T. Mahomed Ismail**: Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) how many additional places of Excise Inspectors have been sanctioned by the recent re-organisation of the Excise Department

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